



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

Dear SWARC members,

I'd like to thank all of you that attended our most recent meeting; notably, some of our stalwarts were missing. Our annual Thanksgiving meal was supported by sides and desserts so no one left hungry.

The event at the State Fair was quite successful and we had almost double the number of interested parties this year over last year. This was probably accountable to Hurricane Helene and the heightened awareness that other modes of communication are often disabled during catastrophic events/circumstances. Look for further info in the meeting recap contained herein.

If anyone has things to sell on the SWARC table at JARSfest, reach out to me and let me know and also consider helping at the table if you are attending.

We have been asked by the Legion to provide four or more members to assist with serving dinner at their January 9, 2025 meeting. We will do this to strengthen our relationship with the AL Post 116.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Monthly Reminders

Please remember our fellow members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these members. Even a phone call can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Steve, KA0GMY, and Bernie Jones, N4BAJ.

Steve, KA0GMY, continues to have health issues of various and sundry sorts so remember him and his family.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports:

Good morning Richard and happy constitutional republic day! 😊
I'm doing pretty well, but still having issues with post radiation pain mainly in the afternoon from clearing my throat in the morning. I am managing the pain so things aren't really that bad. My last scans were good and I'm going to be scheduled for another scan around the end of the month. Gary. (Report from Richard Hall this past Wednesday).

Kenny (KJ4CVK), has ongoing health issues, so keep him in your thoughts.

Bernie (N4BAJ) has pulled back from many activities due to the length of his recovery. His health has improved and we look forward to his in-person participation in the near future.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Lastly, I want to remind you that we are now taking online payments for dues and donations. We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues or make a donation. Please let us know when you pay online by emailing me, so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues or a donation.

Rodney
KO4ZFO

Notes from NW3U (Dave)

Hello SWARC Members,

I want to remind everyone that there is a public service net at 7:00 pm on the last Wednesday of each month on the 146.64 repeater. You don't have to have been involved before to participate in the net; you can just listen in unless something said piques an interest with you.

Dave, NW3U

SWARC 6 November 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in the usual place at the usual time. There was enough food for those who participated; thanks to all who brought something in addition to ham furnished by the club.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

The meeting began at 7:01 pm with Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve, WB4SMS. Following the pledge, we introduced ourselves around the room as we had new faces and new members present.

Attendees: Bill (KK4QDZ), Rodney (KO4ZFO), Richard (K7RLH), Don (KN4OEY), Paul (KN4NGI) and wife Sarah, Rich (KZ4ET) and wife Jane, Gator (K4MWG), Phil (KQ4MSQ), Robert (KQ4GSA), Dave (NW3U), Steve (WB4SMS), Billy (KQ4LTD), Dean (WB4HSF), Al (WA4TCJ), Navin (KF4LFW), Steve (NC4SW), guests Charlie (NC4CD), Travis (KN4WJL) Brian (no call) and David (no call).

Old/Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Rodney introduced Travis Russell (KN4WJL), one of the organizers for the fair event, and he provided further information and profusely thanked SWARC for supporting the event with volunteers. Travis also reinforced the need for volunteer help with JARSfest, which occurs on 17 November. You can sign up on the JARS website.

Steve (WB4SMS) moved that we donate \$285 to Travis Russell to provide SWARC's share of the printing costs for the brochures handed out at the fair. Seconded and passed; check will be delivered in person by Rodney Warren. Steve again moved that the club absorb the Square



SWARC NEWS-11/24

charges for online dues and donations to promote easier renewals, etc. Seconded and passed.

Mike (K4MWG) announced that the Legion will have a cleanup day on 7 December beginning at 9:00 am and he encouraged us to support them with this effort. Coincidentally, there will also be license test session that morning, as well.

Reports and Program/Presentation

Secretary, Richard (K7RLH) reported that there has been a recent uptick of license applicants at several testing sessions, including the group sponsored by the club. Most of the uptick is attributable to Helene as previously noted.

VP Dave Krum (NW3U) introduced Charlie Durst (NC4CD), from Durham, who spoke to us briefly on the early days of FM repeaters and how things worked in those marvelous days where crystals were required for each frequency, etc. He spent the majority of his presentation on the use of DMR repeaters on the PRN developed by Danny Hampton, K4ITL (SK), who reportedly said that PRN stood for nothing in particular! His discussion covered how to get your Radio ID, how to get/create the code plug required to access the repeaters or to use a hot spot. He showed us several relatively inexpensive radios, both handheld and mobile types, that can be used for this mode of communication. He encouraged everyone to look at the following site: NCPRN.net.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Public Service

The season is over for 2024 and will resume early in 2025 around March with the Odyssey of the Mind competition.

Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini's report detailed \$285.00 in dues and donations with expenses of \$18.00 for bank and Google fees and \$8.20 for Square charges for online credit card use for renewals or donations. Balance of \$2,823.71 with no obligated funds or invoices outstanding. This, of course, is before the check approved in New Business was written.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Hall K7RLH
Secretary and Newsletter Editor



SWARC NEWS-11/24

MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORT

SWARC Group – October 2024

The monthly total of check-ins was 179—a noticeable uptick from last month! Perhaps that's a reflection of less daylight and more folks checking in as a result. Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could actually be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH
- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KN4OEY will call Tuesday evenings
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KO4ZFO or a board member will call Thursday evenings
- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Please contact Rodney Warren (KO4ZFO) or Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. **If you are a scheduled net controller and you are not able to call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!**

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars.net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts

www.fivecountyhre.org



National Preparedness Month: Have a Go Kit

September is National Preparedness Month, and ARRL is working to help radio amateurs have a plan for family resilience. Many hams enjoy public service as part of their operating. Being ready to activate for a served agency through the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) involves not only being licensed and trained, but also prepared and equipped.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, suggests that hams and their families have a “go-bag”. He says there are a few things to consider: “You need to be able to function while



SWARC NEWS-11/24

activated, so that means you need a kit for your needs and a kit for your radio needs. If your family is impacted by the situation, they also need to have some gear at the ready.”

On the ARRL website, there’s an [Emergency Prep Kit Checklist](#). It lists the common items such as food and water for several days, a first aid kit, medications, chargers for your devices and other useful items.

See the next page for the checklist.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Emergency Prep Kit Checklist

It's hard to think clearly during an emergency, and the last thing you want to do is leave something important behind. Use this checklist to gather essential items and prepare today for what might happen tomorrow.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, HAVE THESE ITEMS READY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Water
A 3-day supply of water and food. Include 1 gallon of water per person per day and non-perishable food items like energy bars, cereal, dried fruit, nuts, peanut butter, and canned meats. | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit
Sterile gloves and dressings, bandages, soap, antibacterial towels, hand sanitizer, burn ointment, antibiotic ointment, eye wash, and a thermometer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utensils
Eating utensils, plates, cups, bowls, a can opener, and paper towels. | <input type="checkbox"/> Medications
A 3-day supply of prescription medications, pain relievers, cold and sinus relief, anti-diarrhea medicine, antacids, and laxatives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing
A change of clothes for each person, rain gear, extra shoes, and waterproof boots. | <input type="checkbox"/> Devices
A cell phone, a charging cord, a portable charger or battery pack, a hand-crank radio, an LED flashlight with extra batteries, and a headlamp. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day-to-Day Living Items
Garbage bags, toilet paper, matches in a waterproof container, a multipurpose tool, dust masks, duct tape, plastic sheeting, Mylar® blankets, a whistle, local maps, and bleach. | <input type="checkbox"/> Important Documents
Copies of birth certificates, driver's licenses, insurance cards, medication lists, medical records, proofs of address, passports, wills, bank records, marriage licenses, adoption papers, and emergency contact lists. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Items
Toiletries, an extra pair of glasses/contact lenses, tweezers, and nail clippers. | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash
Small denominations and change. |

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ **For Babies**
Diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, diaper rash cream, baby wash and lotion, formula, baby food, bottles, bibs, burp rags, pacifiers, teething tablets or gel, and blankets.
- ☐ **For Seniors**
Medications, hearing aids and batteries, extra eyeglasses, syringes, portable oxygen, mobility supplies, and contact information for doctors and caregivers.
- ☐ **For Children**
Books, toys, puzzles, crayons, and comfort items.
- ☐ **Ham Radio Gear**
A handheld, a mobile radio, chargers, extra batteries, antennas, power cords, and a laptop.





SWARC NEWS-11/24

Having a kit for your radio is useful as well. "Go kits will vary based on function and need for the field," said Johnston. "Most kits should include a dual band HT and/or mobile radio with antenna, a power supply and all necessary cables and connectors. Every kit should include note pad or paper of some type as well as pens or pencils. You should have a power source and power cables. If you are working HF then you will need an HF radio and antenna, and if you want digital capabilities, then a computer with software preloaded will be desired."



ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack

Other things you may want will include tape and tools, spare batteries, headphones, flashlights of some sort, cell phone chargers, and a multimeter. Other items that won't fit in a bag but may be needed include a generator, a working surface like a small folding table, a chair, and some type of shelter.

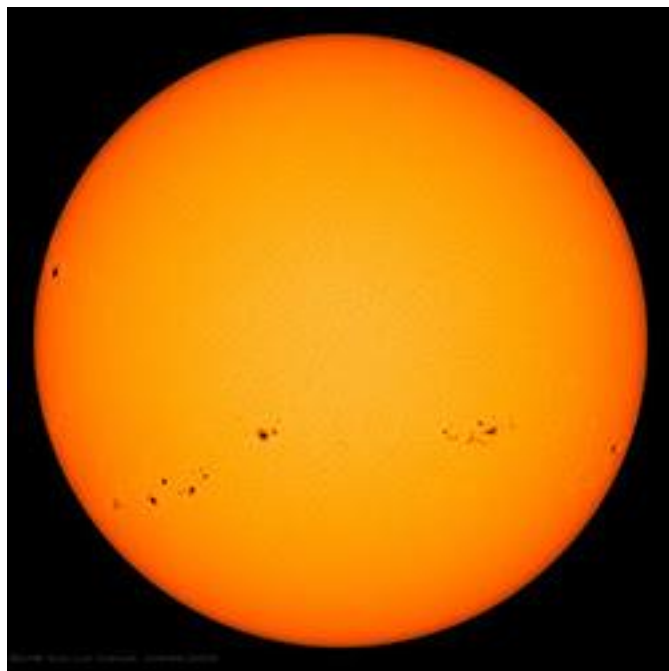
Need a bag for your go kit? Consider the [ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack](#). \$30.00 in the ARRL Store.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Announcements

The K7RA Solar Update



This image was taken on
September 5, 2024.
[Photo courtesy of NASA
SDO/HMI]

For this Friday's ARRL
Propagation Bulletin,
ARLP036:
Eight new sunspot groups
emerged over the past week.

Two appeared on August 30,
three more on August 31,
another two on September 2
and one more on September
4.

The average daily sunspot
number declined from 177.1
to 155.3, while average daily
solar flux barely changed from
229 to 230.3.

Predicted solar flux is 260, 250, 240, and 250 on September 5 – 8; 255
on September 9 – 10; 245 on September 11 – 12; 240, 250, 255, and



SWARC NEWS-11/24

245 on September 13 – 16; 240, 235, 240, and 245 on September 17 – 20; 240 on September 21 – 22; 245 on September 23 – 24; 240, 235, 230, and 225 on September 25 - 28.

Predicted planetary A index is 10 on September 5 – 6; 5 on September 7; 10 on September 8 – 9; 8 on September 10 – 11; 5 on September 12 – 16; 8 on September 17 – 18; 5 on September 19 – 25, and 25 on September 26 - 27.

Sunspot numbers for August 29 through September 4, 2024, were 124, 143, 180, 156, 200, 133, and 151, with a mean of 155.3. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 204, 214.2, 232.6, 231.6, 225.5, 242.1, and 261.8, with a mean of 230.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 23, 26, 16, 8, 7, and 13, with a mean of 14. Middle latitude A index was 5, 16, 19, 16, 16, 16, 7, 10, and 16, with a mean of 12.7.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

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Just Ahead in Radiosport

- September 7 - 8 -- All Asian DX Contest (phone)
- September 7 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint (CW)
- September 7 - 8 -- SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- SARL Field Day Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- September 7 - 8 -- IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- RSGB SSB Field Day (phone)
- September 7 -- Ohio State Parks on the Air (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- IARU Region 1 145 MHz Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- September 7 -- AGCW Straight Key Party (CW)
- September 7 -- CWOps CW Open (CW)
- September 7 - 8 -- PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Sprint (digital)

- September 8 -- [North American Sprint](#) (CW)
- September 8 -- WAB 144 MHz QRO (phone)
- September 9 -- 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint (CW, phone)
- September 9 -- 144 MHz Fall Sprint (CW, phone, digital)
- September 11 -- RSGB 80m Autumn Series (CW)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.

Three promotional banners are displayed side-by-side. The left banner is for "Schulman Auction" and "AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS", featuring a red stylized logo and text about collections, estates, and specialty gear, with a "BUY/SELL" button and a QR code. The middle banner is for "Take On The Air" and "RigExpert", showing four handheld radios in blue, yellow, grey, and olive green, with prices listed as "-30\$", "-30\$", "-150", and "-150". The right banner is for "MMX Nomad" and "Complete HF Radio Station", featuring a black and yellow radio unit with a keyboard and a QR code. The bottom of the banners includes the text "STICK Family" and "PreppComm Amateur Radio".

Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- September 8 | [ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Convention](#), Mullica Hill, New Jersey
- September 20 - 22 | [Duke City Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL New Mexico State Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- September 21 - 22 | [Midwest Superfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Illinois Section Convention, Chillicothe, Illinois

- September 28 | [Red River Radio Amateurs Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota
- October 5 | [Wichita Area Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Kansas State Convention, Wichita, Kansas
- October 5 | [Northstar Radio Convention](#), sponsoring the ARRL Minnesota State Convention, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
- October 12 | [Rock Hill Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL South Carolina Section Convention, Rock Hill, South Carolina.
- October 18 - 20 | [Pacificon](#), sponsoring the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California
- November 2 | [Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference 2024](#), sponsoring the ARRL Wisconsin State Convention, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

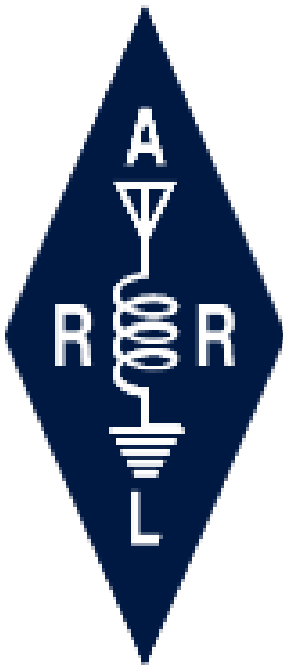
Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for the ARRL Letter and ARRL News can be sent to news@arrl.org. -- John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, [ARRL News Editor](#)



SWARC NEWS-11/24



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[Join ARRL or renew today!](#) No other organization works harder to promote and protect amateur radio. Membership supports benefits, services, programs, and advocacy to help you get (and stay) active and on the air. Membership includes access to digital editions of all four

ARRL [magazines](#): *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

The ARRL Letter is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

[NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.

[QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...



SWARC NEWS-11/24

[Subscribe](#) to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts, and much more!

Find ARRL on [Facebook](#)! Follow us on [Threads](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 51 times each year. ARRL members may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their profile at www.arrl.org/opt-in-out.

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Here is the latest from ARRL.



[John E. Ross, KD8IDJ](#), Editor | November 7, 2024

[ARRL Home Page](#)

[ARRL Letter Archive](#)

[ARRL Audio News](#)



SWARC NEWS-11/24



In this Issue:

- [Amateur Radio Activated for Late Season Hurricane](#)
 - [2024 ARRL Field Day Results Published](#)
 - [Rare California Island to be Activated for Armed Forces Day, First Time in](#)
 - [Amateur Radio in the News](#)
 - [ARRL Podcasts](#)
 - [In Brief...](#)
 - [Announcements](#)
 - [The K7RA Solar Update](#)
 - [Just Ahead in Radiosport](#)
 - [Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions](#)
-

Amateur Radio Activated for Late Season Hurricane

A rare November hurricane made landfall in western Cuba as a Category 3 storm on Wednesday and continued to move slowly toward the northwest Thursday morning. Volunteer ham radio operators were there to provide surface reports to the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Hurricane Rafael left Cuba's 10 million residents without power and on Thursday afternoon was a Category 2 storm moving away from Cuba and heading north towards the Gulf of Mexico. Initial predictions showed the storm could have been headed for Florida and Louisiana, but all watches and warnings in those areas have been discontinued.

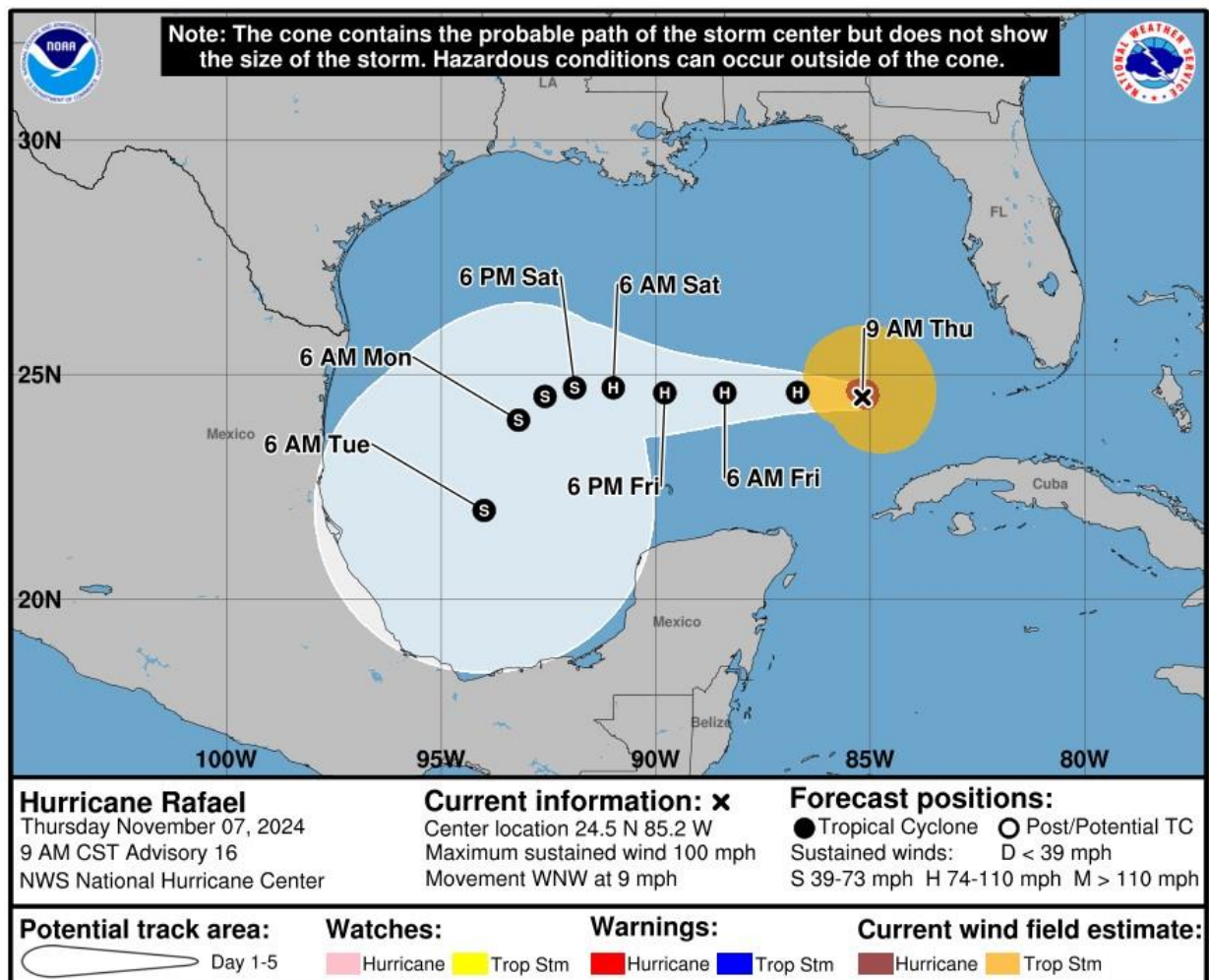
The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN), the VoIP Hurricane Net, and WX4NHC, the a



SWARC NEWS-11/24

radio station at the National Hurricane Center (NHC), were activated until Wednesday night but are now secured and continuing to monitor the storm.

The NHC predicts that Rafael should remain a hurricane for the next couple of days as it moves into a drier air mass in the south-central Gulf of Mexico this weekend and early next week.





SWARC NEWS-11/24



2024 ARRL Field Day Results Published

Results are published, and the numbers are in. They paint a picture of a very active 2024 ARRL Field Day. Nearly 1.3 million contacts were reported during the 24-hour event. That is up from 2023's 1.25 million contacts. That's likely indicative of the continued rise of Solar Cycle 25 leading up to the event, but more people also participated this year.

Entries were received from all 85 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sections as well as from 27 different countries from outside the US and Canada. "It is encouraging to see a rise in participation year to year," said ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE. "ARRL Field Day is amateur radio's premier event and the hams turned out for it."

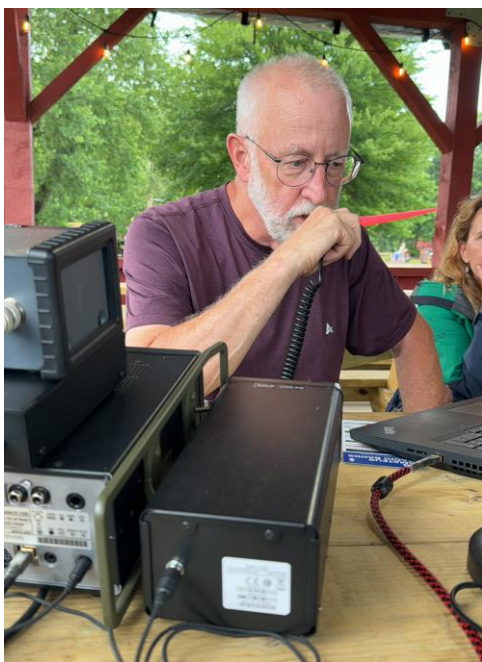
Field Day is whatever you make it. For some participants, it's a contest; for others, it's a social gathering and club activity. Other groups use Field Day to showcase what amateur radio is all about to the public. Some groups use Field Day as an opportunity to introduce youths to amateur radio.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

Class A, B, and C scores are included in the 2024 *QST* results article. The scores for D, E and F stations and club aggregate scores are listed in the 2024 line scores web, as well in the digital edition of *QST*.

Results are available now on the ARRL Field Day website at <https://field-day.arrl.org/fdresults.php> and in the December issue of *QST*.





SWARC NEWS-11/24



Rare California Island to be Activated for Armed Forces Day, First Time in 53 Years
On Armed Forces Day, May 1971, 53 years ago, two amateur operators working as WZ6SNI, activated San Nicolas Island, IOTA NA-066. At 61 miles, San Nicolas is the most remote of the Channel Islands off the coast of Southern California and is owned by the US Navy.



Now, weather permitting, Will Costello, WC6DX, has been authorized to be activated on San Nicolas Island November 8 - 12, 2024. He is taking a Buddihex antenna for 30 meters and a 100 watt rig.

For island chasers in southern California, Arizona, and southern Nevada who may not be able to hear because of skip, he will also take a Buddipole antenna for 40 - 50 meters daytime use. Operations will be primarily SSB, and CW if conditions demand due to solar flares.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

QSL instructions will be on WC6DX's QRZ.com after the operation.



Amateur Radio in the News

["Area Scouts join amateur radio club for Jamboree-on-the-Air"](#) / The Kerrville Times (Texas) October 28, 2024 -- *The Hill Country Amateur Radio Club is an A Affiliated Club.*

["How a Wayne principal saved an astronaut talk for students after school shut"](#) Northjersey.com (New Jersey) October 29, 2024 -- Heart of Amateur Radio Club

["Reading Scouts unite with amateur radio club for event"](#) / Reading Chronicle (Kingdom) October 20, 2024 -- Reading and District Amateur Radio Club.

["Opportunity of a lifetime: Satellite Beach students speak with astronaut onbo"](#) / Florida Today (Florida) October 31, 2024 -- Platinum Coast Amateur Radio So

["Ham radio system donated and installed at the fire hall"](#) / Petersburg Pilot (A



SWARC NEWS-11/24

October 31, 2024 -- Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®).



digirig a tidy digital modes interface

- Audio and rig control
- Single USB connection
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digirig.net



ARRL Podcasts



On the Air
Sponsored by Icom

ARES® Task Book Updates

The ARES® Task Book, an important resource and reference for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, is used by amateurs who want to be of service to their communities. ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, joins the podcast to talk about the task book's place in a ham's training, as well as recent updates to the book.



SWARC NEWS-11/24



ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are available on blubrry, iTunes, and Apple Podcasts.

[On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#)



Dacron Rope

1/8", 3/16", 5/16", 1/2"

no stretch, UV proof



In Brief...

Throughout the month of November, AMSAT will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the amateur satellite AMSAT OSCAR 7 (AO-7), a SmallSat launched on November 1, 1971. AO-7 is still working and has been nicknamed the "sleeping beauty" of satellites because it came back to life after years of "sleeping." Designed by radio amateur Bill Sturgeon, the final assembly occurred in a basement laboratory not far from the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. AO-7 lived a very healthy lifetime of 6.5 years but in



SWARC NEWS-11/24

1980, AO-7's NiCad battery began to show serious signs of increased series resistance. This was a sure sign to AMSAT command stations that the end was in sight for the satellite. The cells had been originally matched for capacity by NASA and they all failed in a matter of weeks of one another. AO-7 stayed asleep for 21 years, but then on June 21, 2002, the satellite woke up again. This was only possible if something caused an open circuit in the battery. On June 21, 2002, a very active user of AO-7, Pat Gowain, G3IOR, from the UK, made a telephone call to Perry Klein, W3PK, the first AMSAT president and designer of the VHF/HF transponder. Gowain was wondering if a low-Earth-orbit (LEO) spacecraft had been launched. He was hearing Morse Code telemetry again on AO-7's old beacon frequency. He played Perry a tape recording and it turned out to be AO-7 telemetry! AMSAT will honor this historic achievement with a series of short articles highlighting the life of AO-7. You can visit a special page on the AMSAT website where you will find a collection of AO-7 articles and links at <https://www.amsat.org/amsat-ao-7-a-fifty-year-anniversary/>.

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Announcements



SWARC NEWS-11/24

ARRL Opening Late on Friday, Nov. 8 and Closed on Veterans Day, Nov. 11

ARRL[®] has two closures coming up for our headquarters in Newington, Connecticut.

ARRL will be closed on Friday morning, November 8, 2024, for an employee meeting. During the short closure, members are encouraged to use the ARRL website, www.arrl.org, for membership renewals, publication purchases, and most benefits, services, and programs. The ARRL Headquarters lobby & store, W1AW will be re-open to visitors at 12 PM Eastern Standard Time (1700 UTC) Friday. W1AW will not run the slow code transmission that morning. The previously scheduled [W1AW Qualifying Run](#) on Friday at 9 AM EST (1400 UTC) has been cancelled.

ARRL will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2024, in observance of Veterans Day. There will be no W1AW bulletins or code practice that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 8 AM EST. For ARRL News, publications, or to join or renew your ARRL membership, please visit www.arrl.org. *We are grateful for the sacrifices and service of veterans.*

On Armed Forces Day in May 1971, 53 years ago, two amateur operators worked from WZ6SNI, activated San Nicolas Island, IOTA NA-066. At 61 miles offshore, San Nicolas is the most remote of the Channel Islands off the coast of Southern California, and is owned by the US Navy. Now, weather permitting, Will Costello, WC6DX, has been authorized to be active from San Nicolas Island November 8 - 12, 2024. He is taking a Buddihex antenna for 6 - 20 meters and a 100-watt rig. For island chasers in Southern California, Arizona, and southern Nevada who may not be able to hear because of distance, he will also take a Buddipole antenna for daytime use on 40 and 30 meters. Operation will be primarily SSB, and CW if conditions deteriorate due to solar flares. QSL instructions will be on WC6DX's QRZ.com page after the operation.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

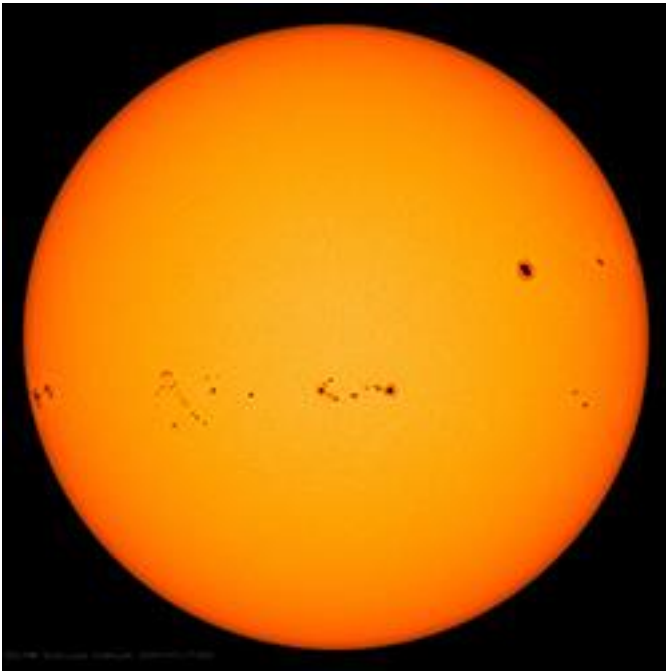
Amateur Radio YouTubers are scheduled to host a telethon to benefit the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. The event will be hosted by Josh N16NAZ, on his [Ham Radio Crash Course](#) channel. The live event will be on Saturday, November 30. Several generous donors have stepped up with a challenge grant to encourage other radio amateurs to donate to the [ARRL Education and Technology Fund](#). Look for more details soon.

2025 Dayton Hamvention® will be held at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio, on May 16, 17, and 18. The theme for 2025 will be "Radio Independence." Dayton Hamvention is the largest hamfest in the country. Find tickets and more information at www.hamvention.org.

The K7RA Solar Update



SWARC NEWS-11/24



This image was taken on November 7, 2024.

[Photo courtesy of NASA SDO/HMI]

8, 11, 10, and 9 for November 1-6, with missing data for November 7. The mean for the six days was 8.8.

For this Friday's ARRL Propagation Bulletin, see **ARLP045**

Solar activity increased this week. The daily sunspot number went from 197.4 on November 7 to 193.4 on November 8.

Predicted solar flux is 265 on November 9, 250 on November 10, 240 on November 12 - 13, 240 on November 14, and 165 on November 15.

Sunspot numbers for November 1 - 6 were 210, 242, 220, 191, 149, and 155, with a mean of 193.4. The 10.7 centimeter flux was 246.6, 236.7, 238.3, 241.4, 255.9, and 243.7, with a mean of 243.7. Estimated planetary indices were 7, 13, 11, 14, 11, 10, and 8, with a mean of 10.6. Middle latitude A index was 8, 11, 10, and 9 for November 1-6, with missing data for November 7. The mean for the six days was 8.8.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, read "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) the Propagation Page by Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, see the [ARLP045](#) page.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio website](#).

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

Thanks to ARRL Central Division Director Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, for preparing this week's solar report.



Just Ahead in Radiosport



ARRL is pleased to award a November Sweepstakes plaque to the Overall and Division Leaders in each category, thanks to [Icom America](#) -- which is the 2024 Principal Awards Sponsor of the contest -- as well as the clubs and individuals who also sponsor some of the plaques.



SWARC NEWS-11/24

- November 7 -- Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW)
- November 7 -- NRAU 10m Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- November 7 -- SKCC Sprint Europe (CW)
- November 9 -- FISTS Saturday Sprint (CW)
- November 9 - 10 -- WAE DX Contest, RTTY (digital)
- November 9 - 11 -- PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint (digital)
- November 9 - 10 -- International Fall Contest, Digital (digital)
- November 9 - 10 -- JIDX Phone Contest (phone)
- November 9 - 10 -- OK/OM DX Contest (CW)
- November 9 - 10 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (CW)
- November 9 - 11 -- CQ-WE Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- November 9 - 18 -- AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party (CW)
- November 10 -- North American SSB Sprint Contest (phone)
- November 10 -- FIRAC HF Contest (phone)
- November 11 -- 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint (CW, phone)
- November 12 -- DARC FT4 Contest (FT4)
- November 13 -- RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB (phone)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information



SWARC NEWS-11/24



Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- December 13 - 14 | Tampa Bay Hamfest, sponsoring the ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention, Plant City, Florida
- January 4 | Ham Radio University, sponsoring the ARRL New York City-Lowland Section Convention, Brookville, New York
- January 10 - 11 | 2025 Southwest Florida Regional Hamfest, sponsoring the Southern Florida Section Convention, Fort Myers, Florida

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area

Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for *The ARRL Letter* and ARRL News can be sent to news@arrl.org
E. Ross, KD8IDJ, [ARRL News Editor](#)



SWARC NEWS-11/24



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[Join ARRL or renew today!](#) No other organization works so hard to promote and protect amateur radio. Membership supports the club's efforts to provide benefits, services, programs, and advocacy to help you stay active and on the air. Membership includes access to digital editions of all four ARRL [magazines](#): *QST*, *On the Air*, *NCJ*, and *NCJ*.

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

The ARRL Letter is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

[NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.

[QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...

[Subscribe](#) to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts, and much more!



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The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 51 times each year. ARRL members may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their profile at www.arrl.org/op

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